

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend claim 1 as follows, and please cancel claim 2 without prejudice to continued prosecution. The claims and their status are shown below.

1. (Currently Amended) A purified immunogenic polypeptide, the amino acid sequence of which comprises ~~at least eight consecutive residues of~~ SEQ ID NO: 8.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Original) A composition comprising the immunogenic polypeptide of claim 1.

4. (Original) A mutant of the immunogenic polypeptide of claim 1, wherein said mutant polypeptide retains immunogenicity.

5. (Original) A composition comprising the mutant polypeptide of claim 4.

6. (Withdrawn) A method of eliciting an immune response in an animal, said method comprising introducing the composition of claim 3 into said animal.

7. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 6, wherein said composition is administered orally, intranasally, intraperitoneally, intramuscularly, subcutaneously, or intravenously.

8. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 6, wherein said animal is a swine.

9-19. (Canceled)

20. (Withdrawn) A method of determining whether or not an animal has an antibody reactive to the immunogenic polypeptide of claim 1, said method comprising:

providing a test sample from said animal;

contacting said test sample with said immunogenic polypeptide under conditions permissible for specific binding of said immunogenic polypeptide with said antibody; and

detecting the presence or absence of said specific binding, wherein said presence of specific binding indicates that said animal has said antibody, and wherein said absence of specific binding indicates that said animal does not have said antibody.

21. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 20, wherein said test sample is a biological fluid.

22. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 21, wherein said biological fluid is selected from the group consisting of blood, nasal fluid, throat fluid, and lung fluid.

23. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 20, wherein said immunogenic polypeptide is attached to a solid support.

24. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 23, wherein said solid support is a microtiter plate, or polystyrene beads.

25. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 20, wherein said immunogenic polypeptide is labeled.

26. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 20, wherein said detecting is by radioimmunoassay (RIA), enzyme immunoassay (EIA), or enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA).

27. (Original) A diagnostic kit for detecting the presence of an antibody in a test sample, wherein said antibody is reactive to the immunogenic polypeptide of claim 1, said kit comprising the immunogenic polypeptide of claim 1.

28-29. (Canceled)